

The Hong Kong Telegraph.

No. 70.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD, 1881.

[PRICE—\$16 PER ANNUM.

Shipping.

FOR MANILA.

THE Steamship "DIAMANTE."

Captain Cullen, will be despatched for the above Port on MONDAY, the 5th Instant, at 4 p.m., instead of as previously notified.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.
Hongkong, August 31, 1881.

FOR AMOY.

THE Steamship "ESMERALDA."

Captain Talbot, will be despatched for the above Port on MONDAY, the 5th Instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.
Hongkong, September 2nd, 1881.

Notices to Consignees.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship "ARRATOON APCAR,"

Captain R. J. McConnel, from Calcutta, Penang, and Singapore.

The above steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the undersigned for countersignature and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding her discharge or remaining on board after the 10th instant, will be landed and stored at Consignee's risk and expense and no Fire Insurance will be effected.

Consignees are hereby informed, that any claims must be made immediately, as none will be entertained after the 12th instant.

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, 3rd September, 1881.

Auctions.

AUCTION OF MACHINERY.

MESSRS. GENATO & Co. have been instructed to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, on the 15th instant, unless previously disposed of by private agreement, all THE MACHINERY of the

SAN MIGUEL FOUNDRY, MANILA.

Consisting of Turning Lathes of all descriptions, Planing Punching, and Shearing Machines, Drilling Machines, Tools, Sets of Stocks and Dies (Whitworth's), Tube Expanders, Root's Blowers, Cranes, and a large stock of Plate Iron and Bar Iron, Shafts of from 4 to 10 inches diameter round and square, &c., &c.

They will also offer for sale a complete

SUGAR REFINERY PLANT, perfectly new, never having been used, built by SHEARS & SONS, London, comprising Copper Vacuum Pan, Double Bottom Pan, Engine and 2 Boilers, 4 Copper Bag Filters, Set of Tanks, 2 Treble Barrel Copper and Gun Metal Pumps, and other attachments.

The plans of the said Refining Machinery will shortly be on view at the Office of this Paper.

Hongkong, September 1st, 1881.

Afong, Photographer,

HAS A LARGER COLLECTION of VIEWS than any other in CHINA.
Miniatures Painted on Ivory from \$7.

Oil Paintings on Canvas from \$5.

Cartes de Visites, Cabinet, and all other Styles of Portraits at equally moderate prices executed under the supervision and management of

D. K. GRIFFITHS,
Studio 8, Queen's-road.

Intimations.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Dividend of 4%, being \$5 per share, for the six months ending 30th June last, declared at today's Ordinary Half-yearly Meeting, will be payable at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation from TO-MORROW, the 30th instant, and Shareholders are requested to apply for Dividend Warrants at the Company's Offices, No. 14, Praya Central, Hongkong.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
R. COOKE,
Acting Secretary.

Hongkong, 29th August, 1881.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

CONTRIBUTING SHAREHOLDERS are requested to send in a Statement of Business contributed during the half-year ended 30th June, 1881, on or before September 30th, on which date the Accounts will be closed.

By Order of the Board of Directors
R. COOKE,
Acting Secretary.

Hongkong, 30th August, 1881.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

During my absence from Hongkong, Mr. ROBERT COOKE will act as Secretary.

By Order of the Board,
D. GILLIES,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

G. FALCONER & Co.,

WATCH AND CHRONOMETER MANUFACTURERS

AND

JEWELLERS.

NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHARTS AND BOOKS.

No. 46, QUEEN'S-ROAD CENTRAL.

Chs. J. GAUPP & Co.

CHRONOMETER, WATCH, AND CLOCK-MAKERS,

Jewellers, Silver-smiths, and

Opticians.

Charts and Books.

Nautical Instruments.

Sole Agents

for Louis Audemars' Watches;

awarded the highest Prizes at every

Exhibition;

and for Voigtländer and Sohn's

Celebrated OPERA GLASSES,

MARINE GLASSES, and SPYGLASSES.

No. 38, Queen's-road Central.

HONGKONG TIMBER YARD,

WANCHAI.

O REGON PINE SPARS AND LUMBER

always on hand.

L. MALLORY,

Proprietor.

Hongkong, 24th June, 1881.

William Schmidt & Co.

GUNMAKERS, &c.

BEACONFIELD ARCADE.

Arms, Ammunitions, and Requisites of every description.

Arms Repaired, Cleaned, or Converted at moderate charges.

Sporting Guns and Ammunition always on hand.

Intimations.

V. R. GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

No. 219.

SALE OF THE OPIUM FARM.

Notice is hereby given, that TENNERS for the PRIVILEGE of PREPARING and SELLING PREPARED OPIUM within the Colony for the term of ONE, TWO, or THREE YEARS from the 1st of March, 1882, under the provisions of Ordinance No. 2 of 1858, No. 1 of 1859, and No. 7 of 1879, will be received at this Office until Noon on MONDAY, the 24th October, 1881.

Each Tender should specify the monthly payment offered for the period above-mentioned.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the highest or any Tender.

Should the highest Tender be less than the sum the Governor thinks a fair price for the Opium Farm, His Excellency in Council will grant Licences direct under Section 3 of the Ordinance, and take such further steps as may be necessary to realize a fair price.

By His Excellency's Command,
M. S. TONNOCHY,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 20th August, 1881.

R ECORD of AMERICAN and FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Agents:
ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.

Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

LE CERCLE-TRANSPORTS

SOCIETE ANONYME D'ASSURANCE MARITIME MARSEILLE.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED....15,000,000 Francs.

CAPITAL PAID-UP.....3,750,000 Francs.

The Undersigned have been appointed AGENTS to the NEW YORK BOARD OF UNDERWRITERS.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.

Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

J. AND R. TENNENT'S ALE and PORTER.

DAVID CORSAR & SONS'

Merchant Navy

Navy Boiled

Long Flax

Crown

AFNOLD KARBERG & Co.

Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

D. K. GRIFFITH & Co.

MANUFACTURERS OF THE

LONDON AERATED

WATERS,

AND GENERAL AGENTS.

7, Beaconsfield Arcade.

J. ULLMANN & Co.

42, QUEEN'S-ROAD, CENTRAL, 42.

Importers of WATCHES,

CLOCKS, MUSICAL BOXES, MARINE

and EYE GLASSES, in great

varieties, and General Goods.

N.B.—Watches carefully repaired

at moderate rates.

A. MILLAR & Co.,

PLUMBERS, GASFITTERS,

COPPERSMITHS, AND BRASS-

FOUNDERS, OFFICE AND WAREROOM

FLETCHER'S BUILDINGS, QUEEN'S-ROAD

EAST, WORKS—SPRING

GARDENS, WANCHAI

For Sale.

SAYLE & CO.'S SHOWROOMS.

Great Clearance Sale.

Commencing on MONDAY, the 29th AUGUST, and continuing

THROUGHOUT SEPTEMBER.

An Early Inspection is respectfully invited.

All Goods marked in plain figures at

GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

Terms—Cash.

VICTORIA EXCHANGE, HONGKONG.

KELLY & WALSH

HAVE just received
Actors and Actresses of British Stage.

Oars and Sculls (Woodgate).

Badecker's Handbooks to Paris, Italy,

Germany, &c.

Badecker's Travellers' Manual of Conversation.

By His Excellency's Command.

M. S. TONNOCHY,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Hongkong, 20th August, 1881.

Reed's Engineer's Handbook.

Home Book—A Domestic Cyclopaedia.

The Peking Gazette, 1880 (translation).

Chesterfield's Letters.

Caunon Farrar's "Mercy and Judgment."

Dictionary of Poetical Quotations.

Fern Paradise—Heath.

A. S. WATSON & Co.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
DRUGGISTS,
GENERAL CHEMISTS,
AND

Manufacturers of the following
AERATED WATERS, viz :
SODA, TONIC, SARSAPARILLA,
AND POTASH, LEMONADE,
GINGERADE, RASPBERRYADE,
AND PHOSPHORIC CHAMPAGNE.

Deliveries in Town and Harbour from
7 A.M. to 7 P.M.

SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED,
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

Prompt Attention given to Coast
Orders.

HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
HONGKONG.
SHANGHAI PHARMACY,
SHANGHAI.
CANTON DISPENSARY,
CANTON.
THE DISPENSARY,
FOOCHOW.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications should be addressed to the
Editor "Hongkong Telegraph," 15, Wellington
Street.

All letters for publication must be written on one
side of the paper only.

Correspondents are requested to forward their
names and addresses with all communications in-
tended for insertion, not necessarily for publication,
but as evidence of good faith.

NOTICES TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers who do not receive their newspapers
within thirty-five minutes after the time of publication
will oblige by communicating with the editor.

Domestic Notices, if properly authenticated, will
be inserted free of charge.

THE
Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, 3RD SEPTEMBER, 1881.

BOTH our contemporaries have lashed out in vigorous style at the Hon. P. Ryrie for his remarks at the recent meeting of the Legislative Council on the subject of newspaper reporting. The morning paper is far more temperate in its comments on the honourable gentleman's references to what has undoubtedly become a crying evil in other places besides the Council Chamber, than the evening journal, but that can be easily understood as the *China Mail* is nothing if not abusive. The whole stock of scurrilous language in the *Mail's* somewhat extensive vocabulary will not, however, change public opinion on a question which for a considerable time past has been common talk throughout the colony. It is only a few days ago since we had to write in emphatic language on several glaring instances, which we mentioned in detail, of gross misrepresentations in the evening paper, of His Excellency the Governor's public utterances. And now Mr. Ryrie comes publicly forward, and, in most temperate language, points out that there is great room for improvement in what has been erroneously regarded as *verbatim* reporting, and as a solution of the difficulty, recommends the appointment of an official reporter, whose reports can be relied on as authentic records of what actually transpires at Council meetings.

The assertion of the *China Mail* that Mr. Ryrie made an unjustifiable public attack upon the short-hand writers of the Press is not borne out by facts. The senior unofficial member scrupulously avoided attacking anybody. "I have no wish," said Mr. Ryrie, "to say anything as to why the newspaper reports differ, but they do differ immensely, and I think there are other members who will agree with me in saying that they frequently in these reports see themselves put down as saying what they had not said. The papers might have their reasons for their inaccuracies, which it is not for me to go into. But this apart, I know as a member of the Council, that the reports have been inaccurate. I therefore think that we are entitled to an official reporter, to whom we could refer, if the accuracy of any member is challenged." This is the

language used by the honourable member, moderate in tone, in good taste, apparently intended to give cause for offence to no person, merely recommending on good grounds an innovation which has much to commend it to public consideration. It is difficult to understand why our evening contemporary should have deemed it necessary to have attacked Mr. Ryrie for the above utterances, and to go out of its way to insult a gentleman who has probably done more for the best interests of Hongkong than any man living. Place for our virtuous contemporary:—

We do not hesitate to state that Mr. Ryrie, in saying this, proceeded from inferences to deliberate and damaging statements of a most ungenerous and uncalled-for nature. His object does not seem to be apparent—unless, indeed, he was merely acting under instructions; but even although Mr. Ryrie has of late years frequently acted in a way which would imply that he had entirely misconceived his representative duties, we would be slow to believe that he could so far forget himself as to ungenerously attack those to whom he has hitherto owed so much, even at the bidding of another. Although the public, whom the Senior Member is supposed to represent after a fashion, may have had cause to doubt whether he fully realizes his real position in Council, as an exponent of public opinion as well as a leading member of the community, it was hardly to be expected that he would have abandoned his listless attitude for the sole purpose of casting unjust aspersions upon the representatives of the press, with whom the hon. member should, had he been true to his representative capacity, have been in full accord. Had he been merely actuated by a desire to obtain an official record of proceedings for the archives of the Colony, what need was there to go out of his way to attack those conveyed to the public in a manner that is certainly creditable to this small Colony? The thing is altogether a puzzling psychological study entirely beyond our powers of comprehension, and we dare to say that the public generally must be equally in a mist as to what at all means.

We cannot make out what the *China Mail* means by stating that Mr. Ryrie "proceeded from inferences to deliberate and damaging statements of a most ungenerous and uncalled-for nature." We will speak with sufficient clearness to prevent any misunderstanding as to our meaning, since our contemporary is so anxious for public notoriety. It is notorious that the so-called verbatim reports in the *China Mail*, especially with reference to the speeches of the Governor in Legislative Council, have been for months past wholly unreliable, in fact, gross misrepresentations of what His Excellency actually said. Whether these inaccuracies have been owing to the difference between "first person" report and one, slightly condensed, written in the third person "we hardly care to decide, in fact we leave the public to form their own reasonable inference from well known facts."

We should be glad to know where the "three or four shorthand writers attached to the two journals of the Colony and engaged on the service referred to" (i.e. verbatim reporting) are to be found. The *Daily Press* has on its staff a most efficient shorthand writer, and with the exception of the unfortunate inaccuracies referred to above, the sub-editor of the *China Mail* is doubtless as well up to his work. But where are the three or four? We are informed by those who ought to know, that the latest addition to the *Mail's* reporting staff knows a little about shorthand, but is not a *verbatim* reporter. Like ourselves, the editors of our contemporaries may know a little about shorthand reporting, but hardly sufficient to entitle either of us to set up as professional reporters. We have no shorthand writer on our staff at present simply because the space at our disposal compels us to condense all lengthy speeches and reports, but as soon as our new plant arrives, which will enable us to lay before our readers and the public a newspaper equal to anything of the kind in the Far East, we shall be represented by a properly qualified shorthand reporter of great experience. The "three or four" shorthand reporters of the *China Mail*

must be taken with a very large allowance of salt.

Why does not our contemporary attack the Acting Chief-Justice? Mr. Snowden, following Mr. Ryrie, said that he thought it might perhaps be desirable to carry out the hon. member's suggestion so far as the debates in Council were concerned, although he considered that an official reporter for the law courts unnecessary. His lordship then paid the reporters a rather left-handed compliment by expressing his opinion that some of the reports were extremely good and accurate, and ascribed any inaccuracies to the defective acoustic properties of the Court and the indistinct utterances of the judges. Perhaps Mr. Snowden is quite correct in his opinions about the reporting in the law courts, as his experience is for more extensive than ours; but we do assert with some confidence, and our views are supported by many other gentlemen who were present, that the report of the recent libel case as published in the *China Mail* was grossly inaccurate, and garbled in a most unfair and unjournalistic style. As a matter of fact it was the report of a partisan, so totally different to what actually transpired in court that it was generally unrecognisable as a record of the proceedings. If a small report like this, where shorthand writing, we are now referring to the evidence, was not required, is so grossly inaccurate, the necessity for an official reporter whose accuracy can be guaranteed is plainly apparent. We are glad that His Excellency the Governor gave Mr. Ryrie's suggestion a favourable reception, and we feel assured that our opinion will be heartily endorsed by the whole community.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The band of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers discoursed an excellent programme of music to a goodly number of promenaders last night.

We would call the attention of our readers to the fact that the steamer *Kiukiang* will make an extra trip to Macao to-morrow (Sunday) at half-past six o'clock a.m., instead of six o'clock as first announced, and will leave the Holy City at 10 p.m. same day.

The British steamer *Conquest*, Capt. Hanlin, which arrived here this morning from Haiphong, reports:—Left Haiphong 31st ult. at 5.30 a.m. and Hoitow on the 1st instant, at 7.40 a.m., and had light variable winds and fine weather throughout. The following steamers were in port at Haiphong:—*Ping-pon*, *Hainan*, *Hinday*, *Olympia*, *Nova*, and *Huizi*; at Hoitow, H.M.S. *Magnie*.

The *Hongkong Human Society* met for practice with the apparatus the first time for the season on the Praya near the Cricket Ground last evening, when seven members mustered at 9.15 p.m. The apparatus was laid out for service and four members were told off for duty on shore and three on Murray Wharf. The practice was got through in a workmanlike manner, the only drawback being the want of the necessary number of hands.

The British steamer *Thales*, Captain Pocock, from the Coast, reports:—Left Foochow on the 30th ult., Amoy 31st, and Swatow 1st inst. From Foochow to Swatow experienced light southerly winds and fine weather, thence to port, Northerly airs and calms. Weather fine. Steamers in port at Foochow, *Haezan*, *Pishili*, *Gleniffer*, at Amoy steamers *Paladin* and *Patkoi*; at Swatow, H.M.S. *Sheldrake*, steamers *Miramar* and *Cheang-Hock-Kian*.

The sale of house-property seems to be continued on a great scale, and quite recently several large lots have changed owners. We are informed by a broker that a large property, consisting of the house occupied by Dr. Ayres, with garden in Cuine-road and 34 Chinese houses in Bridges-street, has been sold for \$132,000; a lot, including the premises lately known as *Pustau's*,

and occupied by McEwen, Trickel and Driscoll, \$305,000; the Roman Catholic Cathedral, \$100,000; 17 shops on Praya West, with seven godowns at the back (Lots 204 and 205) \$284,000; Alexandra Terrace and six small bungalows, \$86,000; Melchers and Co.'s premises, Praya Central, \$150,000.

Sir Algernon Borthwick, proprietor of the well-known fashionable London daily, the *Morning Post*, of Bend Or libel celebrity, has lately reduced the price of the paper to one penny. Our old friend *Punch* has immortalised this revolutionary movement in the following poetic strain:—

THE PENNY "POST."

FROM JEAMES'S POINT OF VIEW.
Sir Halgornon! Sir Halgornon!
I can't believe it's true,
They say the *Post's* a penny now, and all along of you;
The paper which was once the pride of all the Swells
Now like a common print is sold for just a vulgar brown.

It's very well for *Standards* and for *Telegraphs* and *Wits*,
To sell pannies to the folks as goes outside a bus;
But them as rides in carriages did always use to boast.

They took a more expensive print—the genteel *Morning Post*.

All fashionable noos was therel delightin' you and me,
With sometimes verses by a Lord—his name was Winchelsea?
And Master Jenkins did his best to keep it com-il-fo;
But what on earth can we read now? that's what I want to know!

These social diminutives will find as Lords is up to stuff,
They won't go and downan themselves with buying penny stuff;
Why even Licensed Witters beats the Peacock now,
they'll say,
They have an origin of their own that's thrappence every day!

We have much pleasure in appending the following description of the race for the Goodwood Cup. Our observations on this event in our issue of the 20th ult., when the baro 1,2,3 reached us by wire, have proved strangely prophetic:—

The Goodwood Cup, value 300 sovs, added to a subscription of 20 sovs each, h ft; weight for age, with penalties and allowances. Two miles and a half, 17 subs.

Mr. C. Perkin's b m Madame du Barry, by Favonius—Strategy, 6 yrs, 8st 11lb J. Snowden 1 Mr. Craven's b h Nottingham, by Winslow—Belle of Kars, 5 yrs, 8st. Morrell 2 Mr. F. Gretton's b c Fernández, by Sterling—Isola Bella, 4 yrs, 8st 10lb T. Cannon 3 Sir C. Dilke's Peter, by Hermit—Lady Masham, 5 yrs, 9st F. Archer 0 [Exeter was struck out at 1.8 p.m. on the day of the race.]

BETTING AT THE START.

75 to 40 on Peter
5 to 2 agst Madame du Barry
100 to 8 agst Fernandez
100 to 1 agst Nottingham

THE RACE.

Each of the four competitors showed signs of fractiousness at the post, and some delay occurred before a start was effected, and the four went away nicely together. When they had settled down, Nottingham assumed a slight lead of Madame du Barry, who in turn was clear, as they passed the stand, of Peter, while Fernandez brought up the rear. They ran thus until turning out of the straight, when Nottingham increased his advantage to a couple of lengths, Madame du Barry going on twice as far in front of the favorite, who in turn was separated by a clear gap of four lengths from Fernandez, who was labouring on behind. As they came to the Craven starting post, Fernandez dropped still further astern, his chance thus early being effectually disposed of. Before reaching the mile post Peter stuck his toes in the ground, and, indulging his old propensity of kicking, was not further persecuted with. By this time Fernandez was hopelessly disposed of, and the issue had become reduced to a match between Nottingham and Madame du Barry, of whom the latter took up the running before entering the straight, and with Nottingham eased in the pursuit from the distance, Madame du Barry drew right away and won by twenty lengths. Fernandez was beaten off. Time by Benson's chronograph, 5 min. Value of the stakes £490.

The arrival of the *Hanoi* to trade on this river has supplied a long felt want, and as she was built to the order of men who have a practical knowledge of the wants of the trade, she has proved a great success. She is 120 feet long and 17 feet beam, and only draws 5 feet with 3,000 piculs on board. She is a very handsome little vessel, and on the trial trip, for which the enterprising owners issued several invitations, steamed 12.7. An elegant dinner was provided, at which success was drunk in Moët and Chandon to her popular owners. She has just left for Hanoi with about 2,500 piculs of cargo, drawing 4 feet.

We were visited on the 23rd and 24th by the tail end of a typhoon. It commenced at 8 p.m. and blew hard until 2 next day. The lowest reading of barometer was 29.50, wind N.W. to S.W., so that the centre must have passed to the Eastward of us. Beyond the unroofing of some mat huts, no damage was done.

HAIPHONG.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

August 31st.

The Rice season opened on the 25th instant, but owing to high prices very little business has been done yet. Rice is, comparatively speaking, scarce, on account of the large quantities that have been and are still leaving in junks.

The *Kingfish* obtained 15 cents per picul; since then freights have fallen to 12 cents, with a further downward tendency owing to excess of shipping in port and still due.

M. d'Arfesille, our popular Consul, has left us for a well-earned holiday, having been promoted to the rank of *Capitaine de frégate* (equivalent to our Commander R.N.). M. de Champeaux has taken over the duties; it is hoped that his well-known energy may enable him to obtain some further concessions from those obstructionists the mandarins.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents].

THE "TELEGRAPH" LIBEL CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

DEAR SIR.—Your correspondent "An Admirer of Fair Play" has, in his comments on the case of *Vicking v. yourself* fallen into one or two mistakes in point of law which it seems to me advisable, with your permission, publicly to correct.

He gives it as his opinion that your proper course was to have pleaded that "if your article was defamatory it was 'published without actual malice or gross negligence,' what you had written was 'justified under the circumstances and was substantially true, that you were willing to withdraw the conspiracy inferences, which were not as a matter of fact intended as a definite charge, and that 'you had paid into Court \$10 which was 'enough to satisfy the plaintiff's claim.'"

You pleaded in the action that the publication was *bona fide* and without malice, in the necessary defence of your own interests and in reply to attacks made on you. You pleaded also that the matter was true in substance and in fact. Your error, if any, must therefore have been in not pleading that your article was published without gross negligence, that you were willing to apologise and withdraw, and that you had paid damages into court.

Some such plea is undoubtedly given in the Section 2 of Lord Campbell's Act, but, with every respect for the greater legal knowledge of your correspondent, I think it was in your case inapplicable.

Lord Campbell's Act says that it shall be competent for defendant (in an action for libel) to plead that such libel was inserted without actual malice and without gross negligence, and that *before action commenced* or at the earliest opportunity afterwards, a full apology was inserted, and a defendant so pleading must pay money into Court with the plea in satisfaction.

This plea, I humbly conceive can only be made use of by a proprietor or publisher of a paper who has little or nothing to do with the supervision of the publication. It cannot apply to the writer of an article or to a defendant who is his own editor and publisher. It must allege that there was no actual malice and no negligence, not "or" no negligence, as your correspondent puts it; and there must be a previous apology, not merely an offer to apologise, and a present payment to support it.

You cannot, I think, be properly found fault with for not setting up this defence.

Your correspondent in the second place seems to be of opinion that the finding of the jury that there was no malice entitled you to a verdict, and that I ought to have claimed to have had it entered for you. He is right in saying that the charge against you was for "falsely and maliciously" publishing a defamatory libel, but he is wrong in saying that the finding of the jury that there was no malice was, apart from the question of privilege, or ought to have been, an acquittal. It is only where the occasion is held by the Judge, (and it is solely a question for him,) to be a privileged occasion, that the question of actual malice arises.

When a publication is of a defamatory character and found to be false and not privileged by the occasion, then the law says peremptorily that it was a malicious publication, and it will not submit the question of malice or no malice to a jury. In your case the question of malice or no malice was left to the jury not for the immediate purposes of the trial, but with a view to a possible appeal on the question of privilege.

In effect the Judge said to the jury, "I may possibly be wrong in my decision that this was not a privileged occasion. If so, the question of actual malice will become of importance and must be tried. Will you oblige the parties by expressing an opinion on it now, and so saving them further trouble and expense?"

In conclusion, I am sorry I cannot agree with your correspondent in his opinion that you could, on appeal, make out a case of privileged communication. I believe you are quite wise in declining to enter on any further legal proceedings.—Yours, &c.

JNO. J. FRANCIS.

Hongkong, 2nd September, 1881.

RACING NOTES.

We hear from our Shanghai correspondent that over 100 hundred griffins have already arrived from Mongolia for the Autumn auctions. As there are 300 more expected by early steamers, low prices should be the order of the day when the griffins come under the hammer.

The popularity of the Subscription griffin-movement in Hongkong for our next races, may be gathered from the fact that 36 subscribers have already placed their names on the list, and it is confidently expected that the number will eventually exceed 40. We have worked hard to overcome many strong prejudices which existed against sub-

cription race-ponies, and popular racing generally, and it is therefore exceedingly gratifying to us to find that whereas two years ago we stood almost alone, our views are now warmly endorsed by almost the entire sporting community.

Although we have not lately received any official intimation on the subject, we understand that an order has been sent to Shanghai to purchase the first instalment of our subscription ponies. With so many ponies in the market, it will be passing strange if we do not manage to secure one or two high class racers out of the whole mob of "Hongkong griffins." It is currently rumoured that one or two of the subscription griffin races will be confined to local jockeys. If true, this is a step in the right direction.

We believe that H.E. the Governor intends trying conclusions with the "cracks" at our next races. His Excellency hopes to be able to secure something that can gallop a bit at Tientsin during his visit to the North of China. Sportsmen of all classes will view with sincere pleasure Sir John Pope Hennessy actively participating in a pastime which his countrymen generally follow with the utmost enthusiasm.

We heard it suggested the other day that the Cup, which His Majesty the King of the Sandwich Islands graciously offered as a prize for one of our races, should be given for some event solely confined to ponies owned by *bona fide* Hongkong residents and ridden by local "jocks." The suggestion, especially so far as the ownership is concerned, merits attention, as His Majesty evidently intended his gift to be retained in Hongkong.

It is to be hoped that the Stewards of the Race Meeting will do everything possible to make the various prizes for our next races worth winning. Last year the time-honoured custom of appealing to the community through the newspapers for presentation prizes was unwise abandoned. We mooted the question at the time, and were assured that the Executive had so many prizes at their disposal, that an appeal to the public was unnecessary. This might have been so, but as a matter of fact the Stand Plate, an important griffin race won by Robbie Burns, who beat among others Wild Race, winner of the Derby, was simply a sweepstakes of \$5 each, without any addition from the Fund or from any other source. The value of the prize to the winner was exactly \$105. This was magnificence with a vengeance.

HONGKONG NEWSPAPERS.

On this subject the *Shanghai Mercury* says:—

The *Hongkong Telegraph*, which has now been in existence about two months, has made a very promising start as far as we can judge. One of its best features is that it differs from the other two papers there, which make unceasing and bitter attacks on Sir John Pope Hennessy, the Governor of the Colony, for whatever his faults may be, the criticisms of the *Press* and the *Mail* do not lead one to suppose that they are disposed to give him justice whatever he does. The *Telegraph* has been bold enough to stand up against the two old papers, and strike out a policy for itself, and in that respect it is entitled to credit. But the editor of the *Telegraph* has discovered that the troubles which afflict the promoter of a daily newspaper in the East are more than he expected; and he devotes a long "personal" article in replying to certain damaging reports made against his paper, and in exposing some alleged actions which were unfair and contemptible. His enemies are named—one is a Mr. Harry Vicking, who is alleged to have made himself

very anxious for the welfare of the *Telegraph* by advising the printers to throw up the contract they made with the editor of the *Telegraph*; and the editor and sub-editor of the *China Mail* are accused of some spiteful doings in endeavouring to put down the *Telegraph*. The "personal" contains the following touching lamentation:—"We have lived in many lands, and under various auspices, but we have seen more of the contemptible side of human nature during the past six weeks than we ever previously experienced. It has been

said that there are many persons who are esteemed only because they are not known. Their real dispositions are masked so successfully as to be valued and admired for qualities which they never possessed. We have to our cost proved the truth of this." We should have thought that any one who started a daily paper in Hongkong—and for certain anyone who did so in Shanghai—would have to be prepared to see more of the contemptible side of human nature than if he were to go round the world with a wax-work. We have had to put up with a great deal of it ourselves, but have got over it all. We hope the *Telegraph* will succeed in firmly establishing itself in spite of all opposition.

LATEST COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Saturday, September 3rd, 1881.

One o'clock P.M.

Inquiries this morning after certain Shares led to a moderate business, which was mostly done at yesterday's quotations. Although the transfers were not on a large scale, a variety of securities changed hands, and Stocks on the whole may be described as quiet but firm. Several small sales of Banks were made at 112, for cash, and two or three transactions have to be recorded for the end of October at 114. In Docks perhaps more business was done than in any other security, but this was at a decline of 1 for cash, and the quotation now is 43. A few Hotel shares found buyers at the figure at which they left off yesterday, 112, and a small enquiry still exists. Sugars are also in slight demand at 150, but transactions are exceedingly limited as they are firmly held. Small sales were effected in Ice Shares at 126, and this comprised the principal business of the morning.

Shares.

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Shares—112 per cent. premium, ex div., Sales. Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$1,675 per share ex dividend. China Traders' Insurance Company's Shares—\$1,600 per share, ex. div. North China Insurance Company—Tls. 1,125 per share. Yangtsze Insurance Association—Tls. 830 per share. Chinese Insurance Company, —\$305 per share, Buyers. On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 148 per share. Hongkong Fire Insurance Company Shares—\$995 per share. China Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$290 per share, Sellers.

Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—43% premium ex. div., Sellers.

Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steam boat Company's Shares—\$23 per share premium, Sellers.

China Coast Steam Navigation Company—Tls. 162 per share.

Hongkong Gas Company's Shares—\$85 per share.

Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—\$112 per share, Sales.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$150 per share, Ex. Div.

China Sugar Refining Company (Doubtless)—3 per cent premium.

Hongkong Ice Company's Shares—\$126 per share, Sellers.

Hongkong & China Bakery Company, Limited—\$43½ per share.

Chinese Imperial Government Loan of 1878—4% premium, Buyers.

Chinese Imperial Government Loan of 1881—3½% premium.

Exchange.

On LONDON,

Bank Bills, T.T., 3/8½

Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight, 3/8½

Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight, 3/9

Credits, at 4 months' sight, 3/9½

Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight, 3/9½

On PARIS,

Bank Bills, on demand, 4.66

Credits, at 4 months' sight, 4.77

On BOMBAY,

Bank, T.T., 222½

On CALCUTTA,

Bank, T.T., 222½

On SHANGHAI,

Bank, T.T., 72½

Private, 30 days' sight, 73½

Hongkong Temperature.

(Taken at Messrs. Falconer & Co.'s Register, Queen's-road).

HONGKONG, 2nd & 3rd September.

BAROMETER—1 P.M. 29.932

Do. 4 P.M. 29.912

THERMOMETER—1 P.M. 84.

Do. 4 P.M. 85.

Do. 1 P.M. (Wet bulb) 77.

Do. 4 P.M. Do. 79.

BAROMETER—9 A.M. 29.992

THERMOMETER—9 A.M. 81.

Do. 9 A.M. (Wet bulb) 77.

Do. Maximum 85.

Do. Minimum (overnight) 77.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

Sept. 2, *Thales*, British steamer, 820,

T. G. Paoock, from Coast ports, General.—Douglas, Lapraik & Co.

Sept. 2, *Chinkiang*, British steamer, 799, S. M. Orr, Canton 1st Sept., General.—Siemssen & Co.

Sept. 2, *Arratoon Apear*, British str., 1,392, R. J. McConnell, Calcutta 18th August, General.—David Sassoon, Sons & Co.

Sept. 2, *Conquest*, British steamer, 315, Hamlin, Haiphong 31st August, General.—Shua Hang Hong.

Sept. 2, *Strathleven*, British steamer, 1,588, C. W. Pearson, Singapore 27th August, General.—Russell & Co.

Sept. 3, *Galley of Lorne*, British str., 1,339, Branthwaite, Sydney 11th August, Coal.—Russell & Co.

Sept. 3, *Bellona*, German steamer, 789, L. Rickmeier, Mantong Bay, 30th August, Salt.—Siemssen & Co.

Sept. 3, *City of Tokio*, American str., 5,079, J. Maury, San Francisco and Yokohama, August 6th, General.—P. M. S. N. Co.

Sept. 3, *Chun-tung*, Chinese gunboat, from Canton.

DEPARTURES.

Sept. 2, *Ancona*, British steamer, for Singapore, Bombay, etc.

Sept. 3, *Mirapore*, British steamer, for Shanghai.

Sept. 3, *Lido*, British steamer, for Singapore.

Sept. 3, *Tagasago Maru*, Japanese str., for Kobe.

Sept. 3, *Diomed*, British steamer, for Amoy.

Sept. 3, *Chop-szi*, Chinese gunboat, for a cruise.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per German steamer *Bellona*, from Mantong Bay, 2 Chinese.

Per British steamer *Conquest*, from Haiphong, 15 Chinese.

Per British steamer *Strathleven*, from Singapore, 67 Chinese.

Per British steamer *Thales*, from Coast ports, Messrs. Richardson and Boffey, and 130 Chinese.

Per British steamer *Arratoon Apear*, from Calcutta, Lieut.-Col. N. R. Burton, Captain Evertts, and Messrs. White and Richard, and 230 Chinese.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, from San Francisco, etc., Mr. L. L. Bush, 2 children and 2 servants, Col. Crossman, R.E., Lieut. Russell, R.E., Miss L. Cluck, Messrs. C. Trept, J. S. Ciles, Yang Hing Ting, Siu Sat Ting, San Wan Chen, Ho Queng, 2 ladies and 3 children, and 210 Chinese.

Per French steamer *Le Havre*, from Marseilles, 100 Chinese.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, from San Francisco, etc., Mr. L. L. Bush, 2 children and 2 servants, Col. Crossman, R.E., Lieut. Russell, R.E., Miss L. Cluck, Messrs. C. Trept, J. S. Ciles, Yang Hing Ting, Siu Sat Ting, San Wan Chen, Ho Queng, 2 ladies and 3 children, and 210 Chinese.

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To be Let.

TO LET.

A LARGE ROOM on the Ground Floor of No. 6, Queen's Road, next to Chartered Bank, suitable for an office.

Apply to

T. N. DRISCOLL.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1881.

TO LET AT SPRING GARDENS.

THREE HOUSES containing Three Rooms on Upper Storey, with servants' quarters, &c., at \$15. per month.

Also Upper Storey of House No. 213 B. Spring Gardens, containing Two Rooms, Kitchen, and Bathroom at \$10. per month.

Water laid on to all the houses.
Apply to

F. PEREIRA.
112, Spring Gardens.
Hongkong, August 1st, 1881.

FOR SALE.

PRIME GENEVER in Stone Jars;
MARTEL BEANDY *** at \$6.50 per Dozen; WOLFE'S SCHNAPPS and KUMMEL, Good NAVY COCOA (retail at 20 Cents per lb.), SALOON RIFLES and CARTRIDGES, Good REVOLVERS, RELOADING CAFS, SHOT and CARTRIDGE CASES in Sizes, &c., &c., &c.

J. F. SCHEFFER,
54, Praya Central.
Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

FOR SALE.

A FEW DOUBLE BARREL BREECH-LOADING GUNS, 100 Loaded Cartridges and Bags with them, at \$20 each.
J. F. SCHEFFER,
54, Praya Central.
Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

Intimations.

TUITION IN THE FRENCH LANGUAGE,
by Monsieur LOUIS PIRO, SEN.;
SINGING (CULTURE OF THE VOICE)
by Monsieur EUGENE PIRO, JUN.,
44, Queen's Road.
Hongkong, August 30th 1881.

NOTICE.

LAUTSUN SAM,
MEDICAL PRACTITIONER AND DENTIST, TEACHER OF CHEMISTRY, AND WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER.

Sewing Machines and every description of Mechanical Appliance and Musical Instrument repaired. All orders executed promptly, in the best possible style, and at moderate charges.

No. 107, WELLINGTON STREET HONGKONG.

C. L. THEVENIN.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT, AND COMMISSION AGENT.
HONGKONG HOTEL BUILDING, QUEEN'S-ROAD CENTRAL.

STAG HOTEL.
QUEEN'S-ROAD CENTRAL.
Good accommodation for Visitors, English & American Billiards.

Tiffin at One o'clock.

Dinner at 7.30.

This Hotel is most centrally situated and within easy distance of the principal landing places.

J. COOK,
Proprietor.

Hongkong Horse Repository.
LIVERY STABLES, AND DAIRY.

J. KENNEDY,
PROPRIETOR.
Carriages of every Description For Sale, or Hire.

T. ALGAR AND COMPANY,
HOUSE AND ESTATE AGENTS.
RENTS COLLECTED.

BROWN, JONES & Co.,
UNDERTAKERS.
MOUNING STATIONERY, &c.
MONUMENTS ERECTED.
9, HOLLYWOOD ROAD.

Intimations.

BOARD AND LODGING, in a Family House, a few minutes walk from town. Single men, \$25. a month with room furnished. Family, according to arrangement.

Apply to the office of this Paper.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1881.

ECA DA SILVA & Co.

GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS AND AUCTIONEERS.

IMPORTERS OF PARISIAN GOODS, SPANISH WINES, AND GENUINE HAVANA CIGARS.

Special lines in Fancy and Plain SATIN, SILK, AND GAUZE DRESSES. A variety of Richly TRIMMED COSTUMES, from the first houses in Paris.

Elegant Dressing & Morning GOWNS.

BATHING DRESSES in the latest Style.

MUSLIN SHAWLS, CRAVATS, and FICHUS.

An assortment of Fine FRENCH CORSETS.

Ex recent Mail Steamers.
Ladies' and Children's STRAW HATS, in great variety.

PARASOLS and UMBRELLAS.

RIBBONS and SASHES of every description.

Silk and Lisle Thread STOCKINGS, COLLARS and CUFFS in latest Fashions.

SATIN and KID SHOES.

White and Colored KID GLOVES.

Gentlemen's SILK and SATIN SCARVES.

French BOOTS and SHOES.

A large collection of Elegant Articles suitable for presents, from the Grand Magasins du Louvre.

Pisse & Lubin's Celebrated PERFUMES.

The most varied collection of Fancy Goods in the Colony.

SHERRIES of the Finest Quality at extremely low prices.

Note the address, 48, Queen's-road Central.

Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

N. M. KHAMISA.

Drapery Store, Nos. 8 and 10, Peel-street,

HAS For Sale, ex recent arrivals,

European Goods.

Coloured Alpaca.

French Prints.

Coloured Flannels.

Pompadour Satin.

Crewel Work of latest fashion.

Tooth Brushes.

Andalusian Wool (all colours).

Infants' Christening Robes.

Ladies' Skirt Pleating.

Frilling, assorted kinds.

Children's White Washing Hats.

Carrying Cloaks.

Ladies' Costumes of the best quality and latest designs.

Pale blue, pale pink, and cream Mull Muslins.

Infants' Silk Bonnets.

Pale, blue, and cream Book Muslins.

Ladies' Silk Hose—black, white, and colored.

White Silk Mittens.

Ladies' striped Cotton Hose.

Gentlemen's White and Balbriggan Half-hose.

Gentlemen's, Ladies', and Children's Gauze Singlets.

Silk Ribbons.

Stays and Silk Scarves.

French and Swiss Embroidery.

Gentlemen's White Linen Shirts and Drawers.

Hair Brushes.

J. & P. Coates' Machine Cotton, 300 yards, reel, and a lot of useful articles for Ladies dresses, &c.

Almond Rock.

Vanilla Toffee.

Rowser's make.

Butter Mint.

Butter Scotch.

Indian Goods.

Gentlemen's Smoking Caps.

Cashmere Shawls.

Cashmere Cloth for Ladies' Dresses.

Indian Jewellery, comprising Silver Bangles, Neck-laces, Belts, &c.

Rambooree Chunder.

&c., &c., &c.

Chinese Goods.

Silk Crepe Shawls, Silk Handkerchiefs, Scarves, &c., &c.,

Hongkong, 21st June, 1881.

F. VINCENOT,

No. 4, PEEL-STREET,

HAS For Sale ex late arrivals.

Wines received direct from Bordeaux.

Chateau Lafite ... per doz. qts. \$11.00

Do. per 2 doz. pts. \$12.00

Chateau Larose ... per doz. qts. \$11.00

Do. per 2 doz. pts. \$12.00

Chateau Margaux per doz. qts. \$11.00

Do. per 2 doz. pts. \$12.00

Chateau Leoville per doz. qts. \$11.00

Do. per 2 doz. pts. \$12.00

St. Emilion per doz. qts. \$ 7.50

Duplessis Cottage per doz. qts. \$ 6.00

Medoc per doz. qts. \$ 7.50

St. Julien per doz. qts. \$ 6.50

Do. per doz. pts. \$ 7.00

Chateau de Choisy per doz. qts. \$ 5.00

Bonne Cote Vieux per doz. qts. \$ 5.00

Do. per doz. pts. \$ 5.50

Bordeaux Claret } per doz. qts. \$ 3.50

Montefant per doz. qts. \$ 3.50

Do. per doz. pts. \$ 4.00

Old Breakfast } per doz. qts. \$ 2.50

Claret } per doz. qts. \$ 2.50

Do. per doz. pts. \$ 3.00

St. Julian in cask \$80.00

Medoc " \$55.00

Bordeaux Breakfast } per doz. qts. \$38.00

Claret } " \$38.00

Do. half-cask \$20.00

Haut Sauterne per doz. qts. \$ 9.00

Vieux per qt. \$ 6.50

Muscat Grenache, recommended for invalids, } per doz. qts. \$ 7.00

Marsala per doz. qts. \$ 6.00

Brandies, Spirits and Liqueurs.

W. R. Randon Vineyard } per doz. qts. \$ 6.00

Proprietors " \$ 6.00

Kirsch-Wasser per doz. qts. \$10.00

Cavalier Freres fine } per dozen \$ 8.00

Champagne " \$ 8.00

Irish Whiskey, LL. per doz. qts. \$ 6.50

Scoteli " \$ 6.00

Bourbon " \$12.50

Absinth Pernod Fils per doz. qts. \$ 8.00

Mouillet " \$ 8.00

Noilly Prat " \$ 6.50

Yellow Chartreuse per doz. qts. \$25.00

" per btl. \$ 2.25

Green per doz. qts. \$30.00

" per btl. \$ 2.50

F. V. Respail per doz. qts. \$14.00

" per btl. \$ 1.50

Creme de Noyan } per doz. qts. \$13.00

Mario Brizar } per btl. \$ 1.25

Do. per btl. \$ 1.25

A. S. WATSON & Co.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
DRUGGISTS,
GENERAL CHEMISTS,
AND
Manufacturers of the following
AERATED WATERS, viz :
SODA, TONIC, SARSAPARILLA,
AND POTASH, LEMONADE,
GINGERADE, RASPBERRYADE,
AND PHOSPHORIC CHAMPAGNE.

Deliveries in Town and Harbour from
7 A.M. to 7 P.M.

SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED,
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

Prompt Attention given to Coast
Orders.

HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
HONGKONG.
SHANGHAI PHARMACY,
SHANGHAI.
CANTON DISPENSARY,
CANTON.
THE DISPENSARY,
FOOCHOW.

Notices to Correspondents.

All communications should be addressed to the
Editor "Hongkong Telegraph," 15, Wellington
Street.

All letters for publication must be written on one
side of the paper only.

Correspondents are requested to forward their
names and addresses with all communications intended
for insertion, not necessarily for publication,
but as evidence of good faith.

Notices to Subscribers.

Subscribers who do not receive their newspapers
within thirty-five minutes after the time of publication
will oblige by communicating with the Editor.

Domestic Notices, if properly authenticated, will
be inserted free of charge.

THE Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, 5TH SEPTEMBER, 1881.

THE *China Mail*, writing on the recent departure of the *Oceanic*, commences with a wail about the "difficulty of obtaining information from Departments," &c. It ought not to be a matter for surprise that no information was forthcoming on the application of the evening print to one department, the head of which had so recently to cry—"Save me from my friends," and the *Mail*, pretending to ignore the rebuff received at the Harbour Office, says with sweet resignation:—"Under present conditions, however, such guarded conduct on the part of a Government officer is not to be wondered at." After commenting at considerable length on the case of the *Oceanic*, the *Mail* winds up with the observation that "it will be the fairest course to all parties to *reserve comment* upon what at present seems to be an insufficiently explained detention of a regular line steamer." The remarks of the *Mail* on this *Oceanic* business show one of two things—either the writer is steeped in ignorance touching the matter in question or it is one more example that the evening paper sticks at nothing in the shape of misrepresentation and falsehood to attempt to throw discredit upon the Government of this Colony by attributing the detention of this steamer to the action of officials. As facts which are incontrovertible will upset all the "suppositions" set forth in the paragraph referred to, we will give a few.

It is rather more than two months ago that a Chinaman appeared in Hongkong, and he immediately set about the business which had brought him to the spot. This man, who has resided on the Pacific Coast for many years, is known in San Francisco as On Shing, and in Hongkong as Lau Aluk. From the time of his landing here, Lau Aluk has been busy in beating up coolies, and he announced shortly after he came that a European would arrive in Hongkong and make the final arrangements for sending the coolies away. The *Mail* says "no contract whatever had been entered into." This is absolutely false. Lau Aluk and the man trappers who assisted him managed to get 700 men to sign contracts; the contracts were printed in English on

one side and written in Chinese on the other; and the men were particularly impressed with the necessity of keeping the thing quiet, and in order to further this end they were lodged in small groups all over the Colony, some living so far out in the suburbs as the Sowkewan-road. The contract bore the name of Koopmanschap, who will be the European alluded to by Lau Aluk on his arrival here, and the terms of it are not altogether calculated to make even a coolie's fortune. The men were to agree to go to San Francisco, and from thence to "a certain place" (no name mentioned), to work 26 days a month for \$30; they were to find their own food, houses, clothing, in fact everything; no mention is made of medical attendance or hospital accommodation, and when it is remembered that a certain railway cost as many lives to make as sleepers were laid down on it on account of the pestiferous nature of the climate, it must be conceded that these coolies are entitled to some consideration in the matter of medical attendance, when it is pretty well known they were going to work in a place where they would die by hundreds. Their destination in fact leaked out, and the consequence was that of 700 who signed the contract only 407 were really taken out of the port. The method of shipping these "free" emigrants was to give each coolie \$2 when he signed, and \$5 when he got on board, which, with his passage-money was to be deducted at the rate of \$5 a month after he commenced work; cooliecatchers, who could bring men willing to sign, got \$8 per man; and of the large number who ran away who received \$2 each, no doubt may cost \$8 more, which in the total must have brought the sum dropped by the enterprising Koopmanschap to a considerable item. As to the detention, it was due entirely to the coolie shippers. It was arranged that the men should go off to the ship from all the various wharves between Whitfield Station and the Gas Works, in small batches of six or eight as they happened to be lodged, so as not to attract attention, and it looks very much like trying to get these men out of the harbour without any examination at all; be that as it may, the detention had nothing whatever to do with the Government, as it was caused by circumstances in which they had no participation.

The *Mail* says "\$30 a month were awaiting them" (the coolies), but there was nothing to guarantee the men 30 cash; and information was sent from San Francisco to the effect that these "passengers" would find on their arrival at "a certain place" that they had been brought there on a "chui chi" pidgin. We have heard of these poor wretches in times gone by cutting their throats with broken bottles, throwing themselves from high places, and putting an end to their miserable lives in many ways, but if one thing is calculated to lessen this evil more than another it is the action of the Hongkong Government in refusing to recognise as *bona fide* free emigration the system now referred to, which is but a modified type of the coolie traffic of years ago.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

We learn that the Hongkong Humane Society will meet for practice to-morrow, Tuesday.

The German schooner *Wagrien* was hauled up on the Patent Slip at Belcher's Bay this forenoon.

Saturday's *Gazette* announces the recognition by the Governor of Dr. O. F. von Möllendorff as Vice-Consul for Germany at Hongkong.

The American ship *Mary L. Stone*, Captain Field, which arrived here this morning from Hiogo reports:—"Had a severe typhoon on the 24th ult. On the 26th, 27th and 28th ult. experienced strong gales from S.W., lasting 48 hours, since then fine weather to

We are informed by the agents, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., that the steamship *Glenruin* left Singapore for this port on Friday, the 2nd inst.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that His Excellency the Governor has appointed Mr. Edmundo Arthur Carvalho to be a temporary clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

The inauguration of a new club called the Wanchai Club took place on Saturday last by a ball. The dancing commenced at 9.30 and was kept up till a very late hour by a large company numbering nearly 200.

A party of Police, in charge of Inspector Matheson, made a raid upon a gambling-house on Saturday, and captured 24 Chinese, mostly domestic servants in the employ of Europeans. They were brought before the Magistrate the same day and remanded.

Some of the coolies who were to have departed by the *Oceanic* left it rather late before they made up their minds to remain behind, as it was only a few minutes before the vessel was cast off from the buoy that they put off their intended journey by jumping overboard.

The British ship *Geraldine Page*, Captain Wilkinson, arrived here this morning from Newcastle, N.S.W., and reports:—"Left Sydney on the 20th June. Met a typhoon on the 18th August, in lat. 11.42 N. and long. 131.49 E.; the wind commencing at North and veering round to the westward, and finishing up at the South. On the 20th in lat. 21.8 N. and long. 119.42 E., experienced heavy S.W. gale with a very high cross sea; thence had very light winds and unsteady weather with much rain throughout. On the 28th July, passed the bark *Cutty Sark* in lat. 8.46 N. and long. 160.13 E. from Sydney to Shanghai.

Latest advices from the Coast Ports describe trade as having been rather dull for several weeks past, but now on the eve of a revival. Swatow is gradually returning to its normal condition, and on one day last week there were no less than ten steamers in the port at once. At the time of the stoppage of business at this port, the godowns were full of merchandise of every description, and the action of the Guild had the effect of largely reducing, although not quite exhausting, the stock. That trade will now receive an impetus is certain, as large orders have been received from the Coast, which will result in heavy shipments from this port for some time to come.

MACAO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

Saturday Evening.

"Gem of the orient earth and deep sea, Macau," thou art worthy of the highest praises divine, inspiration can give thee. True thou hast fallen from thy high estate, and sunk lower and lower in public estimation, until thy wretchedness and misery have become a byword to the scornful tongues of other nationalities; but thy beauty still remains, and a bright future might yet be before the fairest gem of the Portuguese crown if the prejudices and bigotry of that "old, old faith" which has done so much good, and worked such irretrievable harm to the advancement of nations, could only be abolished in favour of a free and enlightened policy suited to the age we live in.

To the student, acquainted with the mighty past, when Portugal's greatness was the theme of every nation's praise or envy, Macau's degradation is an ocean of bitterness. Gaze on her palaces, homes of the adventurous spirits which made the Lusitanian name feared and honoured, and which still live in the dire vista of an almost forgotten past; wander aimlessly through the magnificent churches, monuments of the enterprise of the Jesuit Fathers, rightly named the pioneers of science from the days of Ignatius Loyola up to the present time, erected in honour of the loyal faith of their native land; meditate on the uncertainty of human fate in the towers and fortresses, remnants of a different age to that we now live in, which still cast a gloomy shadow over the blue waters of the loveliest spot in the East from the far Ind to the shores of the distant Yellow Sea; dream of the almost forgotten glories of a nation's grandeur in the

secluded gardens where Camoens, Portugal's greatest poet, worthy brother of Shakespeare and Dante, composed the magnificent Lusiad.

Like Rome, erstwhile mistress of the world, the might and power of the Portuguese nation have departed, never to return. The commercial age we live in has never suited the romantic notions of this most ancient and chivalric race. The old English adage about suiting one's self to circumstances is a doctrine altogether unknown to Lusitanian ideas. The impracticability of any nation being able to exist on the glories of the past, rather than on the exertions and struggles of the present, has never presented itself in its proper light to our Portuguese brethren, and we see the result in the decay and ruin which surrounds us in this miniature Babylon of the middle ages.

Lately the gem of the orient earth has been *en fete*. Not in honour of Portugal's patron saint, not in honour of her gifted son Camoens, not in honour of any Lusitanian celebrity of the golden past. Macao has put on holiday attire to do honour to the Chinese god Hong Kung, and the masquers and mummers are without an exception true sons of Han. The descendants of the ancient warriors from the banks of the classic Tagus remain quiescent in their poverty and pride, and contentedly allow the Chinese to enjoy themselves in the magnificence of the pomp and pageantry of superstition's bigotry, as they have already outdone them in the more practical development of commercial enterprise. We may despise the Chinese for their strange superstitious adherence to and ignorant idolatry of ancient follies; but in spite of our antipathies we must give them credit for their perseverance, their generosity, and the indomitable energy they invariably display in every act of life, from a rebellion against the Emperor, to the more ignoble, and decided malodorous operation of "chinching" their ancestor's bones.

The late Mr. Hong Kung was a warrior god of some renown. He was a pirate, but according to the ancient precepts of Chinese morality, pirates were very worthy and highly respected members of society. Mr. Hong Kung's virtues were of the notorious William Brewinan order, that is to say, be robbed the rich for the sole purpose of assisting the poor, and like the late lamented Brewinan, the warrior god at last fell into the hands of the authorities, but more fortunate than the Irish highwayman, he managed to escape, by the assistance of a duck's head, in some mysterious way which we are unable to understand, but which has since kept that useful and nutritious bird sacred from the sumptuous menu of all Chinese feasts during the Hong Kung festival.

The effect and influence which this festival has upon the minds of the Chinese will be best gathered from the following brief account of what has actually taken place in Macao during the past few days. Our information derived from authentic sources, and the result, wherever practicable, of personal observation may be relied on. At the present time the number of strange Chinese in Macao is computed by the authorities to exceed fifty thousand. The amount subscribed by the various guilds, and the Chinese community at large for the decorations and other purposes of the festival, is said to have reached over forty thousand dollars. The decorations are, as usual, on the most magnificent (Chinese) scale.

That part of Macao known to Europeans as the Fan-tan street, has been converted into a huge bazaar. The whole length of the thoroughfare has been roofed in with matting, hung with chandeliers, and lanterns of every conceivable shape and hue, and decorated with cabinets of wax or wooden figures representing various episodes in the life of the warrior-god, so complete in every respect, that Madame Tussaud would die with envy could the venerable Frenchwoman be conveniently transported from bustling Baker Street to the classic groves of Macao. At night when the whole of this arcade is lit up with thousands of brilliant lamps, the perspective is really splendid, although the narrowness of the street and the immense concourse of people render locomotion and sight seeing a dangerous and exceedingly arduous pastime. The procession of course is the grand event, and grand enough it certainly is if magnitude and gorgeous

surroundings may be accepted as evidences of grandeur. Chinese processions, like Chinese decorations, are absolutely sickening in their sameness. Shakespeare said of Egypt's queen, the magnificent Cleopatra, "Age cannot wither her, nor custom stale. Her infinite variety; other women cloy the appetites they feed, but she makes hungry where most she satisfies."

As the grand procession of Chinese in honor of Hong Kung is arranged by the various guilds, it would be impossible to compute the number of persons who took an active part, as each guild is responsible for its own arrangements. The guild system of the Chinese resembles in many respects the Liverymen of the City of London, and the old trading companies of Edinboro, although a poverty of ideas is painfully conspicuous in everything connected with decorative art, which is widely different from processions at home. The whole of the separate guilds were represented with the same kind of carved figures, the same gaudily dressed men and children, the same horrid tom-toms and screeching music, the same wretched ponies, footsore or lame in almost every instance; in fact, a procession which took two mortal hours to pass one given spot, and which filled the streets of the ancient city from early morn till dewy eve, was, after the first five minutes, a long continued, sickening repetition. The most enjoyable feature apparently to the thousands upon thousands of onlookers who crowded the line of march was a huge dragon, over fifty yards in length we should imagine, which, manipulated by about sixty men, went through a series of ludicrous antics, much to the amusement of the coolie class, who hardly knew whether to laugh or run away. The carving on some of the ornamental boards was very fine, but it looked frightful to see one side of the board a mass of curiously carved ivory figures, and the other a rough piece of China pine, without even a coat of paint. The dresses were now and generally magnificent, but a mandarin with a splendidly embroidered silk coat, and the tattered nether garments of a chair coolie was too frightful to contemplate. Outside all was intended to be glaring and effective, but want of a very small amount of care greatly detracted from the general *ensemble*. The various flags or banners were exceedingly pretty, and very conspicuous for the artistic embroidery work. Hong Kung has been greatly honoured; his countrymen have been most enthusiastic, most liberal, and decidedly enterprising in their efforts to keep his name green with the rising generation, and to perpetuate his fame with becoming *éclat*. Good has certainly come out of their efforts, as the exodus of countless thousands from the many Chinese cities in the vicinity to take part in the ceremony must of necessity have benefited Macao from a commercial point of view, and given an impetus to trade which she badly needed. The decorations in the bazaar by gas light were most effective, but the grand procession, unique in its proportions, may be correctly described as six miles of tawdry tomfoolery.

We learn that at 8.45 p.m. this evening the Hung Hang Fantan House, in the Rua do Jogo was the scene of confusion and alarm. It appears that while some 260 persons were engaged at the game of fours a bomb containing about 2lbs. of gunpowder was thrown by some one unknown on the counter. It is believed at Macao that this was a signal for a general attack; and during the din of confusion the gamblers appropriated each others stakes; meanwhile the watchman at the door raised the alarm and the police soon responded, and in a twinkling of the eye some 20 policemen appeared on the spot, and were followed shortly afterwards by H. E. the Governor, the Procurador, the Commandant of the Police Force, and other officials. The doors were immediately barred by the police and the fortune seekers were without exception searched. On the persons of two of these a quantity of cartridges, which had the appearance of revolver cartridges, were found, and they have been taken into custody. We also heard of two celestials who met their deaths at the hands a police constable, the particulars of which are as follow:—At a mat shed theatre, it is stated, the actors committed some blunder, when a crowd armed with stones commenced pelting them, when the police entered